

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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R 231755Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4707

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1387

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, SP, US
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: DEPT'S ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES
AND OBJECTIVES

REF: (A) STATE 303856, (B) SATE 37591

1. WHILE I AM IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CONCERN EXPRESSED
IN REFTELS REGARDING THE NEED FOR FURTHER FOCUS ON MULTILATERAL
AFFAIRS, I AM IN TOTAL DISAGREEMENT ON THE DESIGNATION OF A
SPECIFIC MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICER IN EACH MISSION.
QUITE CLEARLY, AN AMBASSADOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGAN-
IZATION OF HIS MISSION AND FOR ASSURING THAT PROPER ATTENTION
IS ACCORDED TO EACH AND EVERY MATTER, MULTILATERAL, BILATERAL
OR WHATEVER, AFFECTING US NATIONAL INTERESTS. AS AMBASSADOR
I INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH THE MOST CRITICAL OF THE
ISSUES AFFECTING UNITED STATES INTERESTS AND TO GUIDE THIS
MISSION IN ITS OVERALL PERFORMANCE. CONSEQUENTLY, I DO
NOT INTEND TO MAKE A SPECIFIC DESIGNATION OF A "MULTILATERAL
AFFAIRS OFFICER" FOR THIS MISSION. MOREOVER, I WOULD REQUEST
THAT TELEGRAMS FOR MADRID NO LONGER BE SLUGGED "FOR AMBASSADOR
AND MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICER." EVEN IF I HAD BEEN
WILLING TO DESIGNATE SUCH AN OFFICER, I WOULD HAVE MADE
THE SAME REQUEST SINCE I COULD NOT ACCEPT THE NOTION
THAT THIS "MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICER" HAD SUDDENLY BE-
COME SOME SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT AND ON THE SAME LEVEL AS THE AMBASSADOR. IF
I IMAGINE THAT EACH BUREAU IN THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT FEEL
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THE NECESSITY TO REQUEST THAT SPECIFIC OFFICERS BE

DESIGNATED TO HANDLE SPECIFIC AFFAIRS, SO THAT WE WOULD
END UP WITH A WHOLE SERIES OF MINI-ENVOYS. THIS SEEMS
TO ME TO BE A TOTAL NEGATION OF WHAT I HAD UNDERSTOOD
TO BE THE PRESIDENT'S AND THE SECRETARY OF STATES'S
WISH THAT THE AMBASSADOR AND THE AMBASSADOR ALONE ASSUME
FULL RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY IN THE ORGANIZATION OF HIS
MISSION. BUT FOR THE TOTALITY OF ITS PERFORMANCE.

2. THE RECORD OF THIS MISSION CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THAT
IT HAS DEALT WITH MULTILATERAL ISSUES EXPEDITIOUSLY,
EFFECTIVELY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR PROPER RELATION
TO THE TOTALITY OF OUR INTERESTS. I FULLY INTEND THAT
THIS SHALL CONTINUE TO BE THE RECORD OF THIS MISSION.
I SHALL PERSONALLY CONTINUE TO HANDLE THE MOST
IMPORTANT MULTILATERAL ISSUES AND SHALL SEE TO IT
THAT ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL OF THIS MISSION PLAY
THEIR FULL ROLES NOT ONLY WITH RESPECT TO MULTILATERAL
MATTERS, BUT WITH RESPECT TO EVERY QUESTION RELATING TO
US INTERESTS VIS-A-VIA SPAIN.

STABLER

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